

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
DOCKET NO. 2011-47-WS - ORDER NO. 2011-759  
OCTOBER 18, 2011

IN RE: Application of Carolina Water Service,	)	ORDER EXTENDING
Incorporated for Approval of an Increase in	)	ISSUANCE DATE OF
Its Rates for Water and Sewer Services	)	MERITS ORDER
Provided to All of Its Service Areas in South	)	
Carolina	)	

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) for consideration of an extra five (5) days to issue the Order in this water and sewer rate case docket involving Carolina Water Service, Inc. (CWS or the Company). S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-5-240(C) (Supp. 2010) requires this Commission to rule and issue its order approving or disapproving any rate changes in full or in part within six months after a rate change request is filed. S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-5-240(D) (Supp. 2010), however, states that should the Commission determine that it cannot, due to circumstances reasonably beyond its control, issue such order within the six-month period prescribed by this section, the Commission may, by order, extend the six-month period for an additional five days. In the present case, we believe that such circumstances exist, and we hereby order an extension of the issuance date of the merits order in this case from October 17, 2011, to October 24, 2011.

In this case, the testimony of public witnesses was voluminous. In all, 55 witnesses testified at the public hearings in this matter, which were held in Lexington, in

the Lake Wylie community, and at the Commission's Hearing Room on the first night of the merits hearing. The last public hearing was necessitated by the inadequacy of time and space at the Lexington hearing, where there were far more people who wanted to testify than there was space to accommodate them physically or time to hear their testimony. Because the last night hearing was held on the first night of the merits hearing, it dramatically increased the amount of material which had to be transcribed by the Court Reporter in a compressed time frame, and inevitably delayed the issuance of the final transcript, which was necessary for the use of the parties and the Commission in preparing the final order. Thus, it is necessary that the Commission have additional days to allow for proper preparation and a full review of all aspects of the merits order in this complex water and sewer case. Accordingly, we make the following

**FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

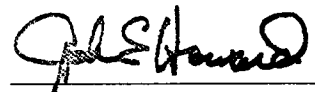
1. The matter under consideration is an additional five (5) days to issue the merits order in this Docket as allowed by S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-5-240(D) (Supp. 2010).
2. The actual extension would be from October 17, 2011, to October 24, 2011.
3. There are clearly "circumstances beyond our control" existing in this instance that warrant the extension for issuance of the merits order in this Docket.
4. Under the present schedule, there is insufficient time for preparation of the Order and proper review of the Order by Staff and Commissioners.

5. The time for issuance of the merits order in this case should be extended to October 24, 2011.

**ORDER**

It is therefore ordered that the time for issuance of the merits order in this Docket shall be extended to October 24, 2011. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

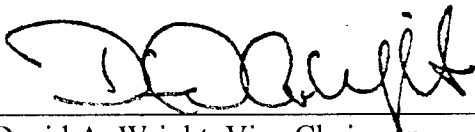
BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:



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John E. Howard, Chairman

ATTEST:



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David A. Wright, Vice Chairman  
(SEAL)